

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ROME 02897 231907Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 CU-02

SAJ-01 ACDA-07 /068 W

-----240206 015716 /64

R 231750Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2935

INFO AMCONSUL MILAN

AMCONSUL NAPLES

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ROME 2897

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: ITALIAN COMMUNISTS ENGAGE IN SELF-CRITICISM

SUMMARY. THE DIRECTORATE OF THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY (PCI) ISSUED A LENGTHY DOCUMENT (THREE COLUMNS IN L'UNITA FEBRUARY 20) DISCUSSING RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ROME CAMPUS, INCLUDING THE DISRUPTION OF THE MEETING OF CGIL SECRETARY LUCIANO LAMA. THE DOCUMENT CALLS FOR A SERIOUS SELF-CRITICISM BY COMMUNISTS FOR THEIR FAILURE TO UNDERSTAND THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE SITUATION AND THE MOOD OF THE STUDENTS, ATTRIBUTES THE TENSION ON THE CAMPUSES TO YEARS OF GOVERNMENTAL NEGLECT AND MISMANAGEMENT, SHARPLY CRITICIZES THE TACTICS AND THE STRATEGY OF THE "AUTONOMIST" GROUPS, AND INDICATES THE NEED FOR THE PCI AND ITS YOUTH FEDERATION TO DEVELOP A PLAN DESIGNED TO REGAIN THE CONFIDENCE OF ALIENATED YOUTH ELEMENTS. END SUMMARY.

1. THE PCI DIRECTORATE HAS APPROVED A LENGTHY DOCUMENT ANALYZING THE EVENTS LEADING UP TO THE INCIDENT ON THE UNIVERSITY OF ROME CAMPUS ON FEBRUARY 18 IN WHICH A MEETING AT WHICH CGIL SECRETARY LAMA WAS SPEAKING WAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ROME 02897 231907Z

DISRUPTED (ROME 2721). THE LAMA INCIDENT LED TO A DAY OF UNREST BY STUDENTS WHICH WAS EVENTUALLY ENDED WHEN POLICE WENT IN AND CLEARED THE STUDENTS FROM THE CAMPUS. THE UNIVERSITY OF ROME MAIN CAMPUS IS NOW CLOSED, AND SERIOUS DAMAGE TO FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT IS REPORTED TO HAVE OCCURRED.

2. THE MOST INTERESTING PART OF THE PCI DOCUMENT IS ITS SPECIFIC MENTION OF THE NEED FOR SELF-CRITICISM. THE DOCUMENT NOTES THAT IN THE FACE OF THESE GRAVE INCIDENTS, "IT IS NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT A SERENE AND RIGOROUS SELF-CRITICISM ON THE PART OF THE COMMUNISTS FOR THE ERRORS AND THE UNCERTAINTIES WHICH HAVE OCCURRED," THE DOCUMENT GOES ON TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT "THERE WAS LACKING A FULL AND IMMEDIATE COMPREHENSION, IN RECENT DAYS, OF THE CLIMATE WHICH HAD BEEN CREATED AT THE CAMPUS ESPECIALLY WITH REGARD TO THE PRESENCE OF ARMED AND ORGAIZED GROUPS OF SQUADRISTI".

3. THE PCI DOCUMENT LEADS OFF BY DECLARING THAT THE TENSIONS ON THE CAMPUS RESULT FROM YEARS OF GOVERNMENTAL NEGLECT AND MISMANAGEMENT. THEY HAVE BEEN COMPLICATED BY THE FACT, ACCORDING TO THE COMMUNISTS, THAT THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION HAS PROPOSED A UNIVERSITY REFORM PROGRAM WITHOUT FIRST HAVING A FULL AND OPEN DIALOGUE WITH ALL DEMOCRATIC FORCES IN THE NATION. IN ADDITION, THE DOCUMENT STRONGLY CRITICIZES THE TACTIS AND THE STRATEGY OF THE "AUTONOMIST" GROUPS, WHICH ARE SEEN AS PLAYING INTO THE HANDS OF REACTIONARY ELEMENTS IN THE COUNTRY, AND URGES THE PARTY AND ITS YOUTH AFFILIATE TO MOBILIZE A NATIONAL CAMPAIGN AIMED AT ATTACKING THE YOUTH OF THE COUNTRY IN ITS ENTIRETY.

4. COMMENT. THE SPEED WITH WHICH THE PCI LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 ROME 02897 231907Z

PRODUCED THE DOCUMENT INDICATES THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE PARTY WAS STUNG BY THE INCIDENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ROME. OF SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE WAS THE CALL FOR SELF-CRITICISM, WHICH IS APPARENTLY THE FIRST TIME THE PARTY HAS RESORTED TO THIS TECHNIQUE IN YEARS. WHILE THE NAMES OF THOSE TO WHOM THE CALL IS ADDRESSED ARE NOT SPECIFICALLY INDICATED, THE DOCUMENT CLEARLY REFERS TO THE CGIL LEADERSHIP AND THE ROME FEDERATIONS OF THE PCI AND ITS YOUTH AFFILIATE. IN LINE WITH THE ORIENTATION OF THE DOCUMENT, THE PARTY'S YOUTH ORGANIZATION HAS NOW BEGUN A TWO-DAY CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING TO DISUCSS THE SITUATION ON THE CAMPUSES. IN THE DAYS AHEAD, WE CAN EXPECT TO SEE THE PARTY LAUNCHING A NUMBER OF NEW INITIATIVES AIMED AT SEEKING TO REGAIN THE SUPPORT AND MOMENTUM IT FEELS IT HAS LOST AMONG UNIVERSITY STUDENTS. HOWEVER,IT WILL HAVE TO PROCEED CAUTIOUSLY IN ORDER TO AVOID A SERIES OF CONFRONTATIONS WITH THE EXTREME LEFT WHICH THE PARTY CAN ILL-AFFORD AT THIS CRUCIAL POINT IN

ITS DEVELOPMENT. BEAUDRY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DOCUMENTS, POLITICAL STABILITY, POLITICAL PARTIES, STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ROME02897
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770063-0520
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770217/aaaaapce.tel
Line Count: 117
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 332761c0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3252147
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ITALIAN COMMUNISTS ENGAGE IN SELF-CRITICISM SUMMARY. THE DIRECTORATE OF THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY (PCI) ISSUED A LENGTHY DOCUMENT (THREE COLUMNS I N L'UNIT
TAGS: PINT, IT, PCI, CGIL, (LAMA, LUCIANO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/332761c0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009